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TOP SECRET CHESSE

ODE - 4075

DATE OF INFO: 28 January 1958

PAR - 202 - 58

13 February 1958

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COPY NO. 31

1. MISSION - 4075 arrived at HTA on 12 February 1958.

2. Photography is of excellent quality. Most of the coverage is cloud free, however scattered clouds were encountered on the eastern leg in Albania between Vlone and Korce, and heavy clouds obscured much of the terrain of the northern leg from Tirane to the area east of Titograd, Yugoslavia.

The Mission covers Albania and border areas of Greece and Yugoslavia.

This report covers only Albania.

SUMMARY:

Excellent coverage was obtained of Saseno Island. No submarine activity or sub pens seen. Little change since last coverage except for installation of additional defenses. Two major airfields were covered. In addition two lesser surfaced fields and three small sod fields were seen. Total aircraft count included 26 Fagot/Fresco, 1 probable Beagle, 1 Coach/Crate, and 1 liaison. No new airfields were seen.

Shipping included only small coastal vessels and several larger cargo ships. No submarines were sighted. No positive evidence of guided missile activity.

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1. SASENO ISLAND

40°30'N - 19°16'E

No submarine activity noted, nor was any evidence seen of "cavern" type sub pens. An increase in gun positions was noted. The centermost hill on the island is being fortified. Previously, this was the only unarmed peak on the island. At least four to six positions have been constructed and cut-outs in the hillside, probably for bunkers, have been made. A large open-deck barge is tied up at the quay in the harbor. The rest of the island appears to have remained static during the past year.

2. KUCOVE AREA

40°47'N - 19°54'E

The town of Kucove and surrounding area was covered by excellent photography.

A. BERAT/KUCOVE AIRFIELD

40°47'N - 19°54'E

Two NW-SE concrete runways, one 6200 by 230 feet, and the other 3500 by 250 feet. Loop taxiway with 40 concrete hardstands NE of longest runway. Loop taxiway with no hardstands SW of short runway. Short runway does not appear to be in usable condition.

Aircraft observed: 1 probable Beagle, and 26 Fagot/Fresco.

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3. TIRANE AREA

The capital city and surrounding area was partially obscured by scattered clouds.

A. TIRANE AIRFIELD

41°20'N - 19°48'E

One concrete runway, 4000 by 270 feet oriented NW-SE. Aircraft observed: 1 coach/crate.

B. PREZE AIRFIELD

41°25'N - 19°43'E

One concrete runway 9200 by 220 feet oriented NNW-SSE. Taxiway, parking aprons and hardstands under construction east of runway. 1270' overrun, or possible runway extension, at SSE end of runway. Only 1 unidentified liaison aircraft seen.

4. ELBASAN AREA

41°02'N - 19°57'E

Coverage included the new oil refinery first reported in production in 1956.

5. DURRES

41°15'N - 19°25'E

Little, if any, change noted since last coverage. Shipping appeared normal, no submarines seen.

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6. VLONE AIRFIELD

40°28'N - 19°29'E



25X1

One concrete runway oriented NNW-SSE does not appear serviceable.

No aircraft seen.

7. What appeared to be probable coastal defense positions were located at the following points:

DHERM	40°09'N - 19°39'E
CAPE KEFALI	39°48'N - 19°55'E
CAPE LAGIT	41°08'N - 19°26'E
HAMAL	40°03'N - 19°47'E
CAPE I. GJUHEZES	40°25'N - 19°17'E

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